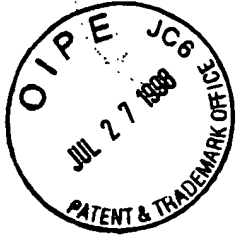


#4



BT-4522

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application of John J. Atwood et al.)
Serial No.: 09/075,392)
Filed: May 8, 1998)
For: IMPROVEMENTS IN THERMAL)
CYCLER FOR PCR)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, insert after the title

--This is a continuation of international application PCT/US98/06189 filed on March 30, 1998 which claims priority from United States Provisional Applications 60/041,754 filed on March 28, 1997 and 60/046,122 filed on May 9, 1997.--

Respectfully submitted,

David Aker
Attorney for the Applicant
Reg. No. 29,277

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July 21, 1998